

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1, 3, and 5-8 are pending in the application. Claims 7-8 are the independent claims. Claims 2 and 4 were previously canceled. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 8 are currently amended. Support for the amendment to claim 8 can at least be found in previously presented claim 7. Thus, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,199,372 (“Wakamoto”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0035101 (“Imai”) and U.S. Patent No. 6,829,886 (“Nakata”).

Claim 7 is allowed.

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejections in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 7 is allowed.

III. Remarks Regarding § 103 Rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wakamoto in view of Imai and Nakata.

Without waiving any argument, and to advance prosecution, claims 1, 3, and 5 are amended to directly depend from allowed claim 7. Claim 6 depends from claim 5. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable for the same reasons that claim 7 is allowable.

With respect to claim 8, the allowed features of claim 7 (i.e., the limitations relating to the first and second heating control) have been added to this claim. Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 8 is also allowable for the same reasons that claim 7 is allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8 are patentable over the cited references and are in condition for allowance.

IV. Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4420 to discuss any matter concerning this application.

Applicants do not believe that any additional fees are required in connection with this submission. Nonetheless, Applicants authorize payment of any additional fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 or 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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